

Medicaid Interim Committee Recommendations  
From meeting of January 5, 2007

The Medicaid Interim Committee held their sixth and final meeting on January 5, 2007. The following recommendations came from motions made by committee members.

1. A recommendation was made that the Medicaid Interim Committee be continued for 5 additional meetings.
2. The Legislature, during the 2007 General Session, should limit state fund Medicaid growth to 5 percent.
3. An "acceptable" Medicaid growth formula is to be developed, considering the economic impact of Medicaid spending among other factors. This formula is to be used in future Legislative Sessions.
4. The Commerce and Workforce Services and Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittees are to evaluate and consider the consolidation of the Medicaid Eligibility System currently split between the Departments of Health and Workforce Services.
5. A precise Medicaid mission statement is to be established and used to prioritize Medicaid services. This is to be done by the Medicaid Interim Committee or if it is not continued, to be developed by the Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee.
6. The Department of Health is to implement an electronic medical record system and to put out an RFP to see if anyone in the private sector would be interested in joining on a "share of cost savings" basis.
7. Further study is to be done on:
  - A preferred drug list
  - Accountability factors for Medicaid clients and providers.
  - Prescription drug bulk purchasing; and
  - An audit by Digital Healthcare.
8. A pilot program for health opportunity accounts with swingouts for major medical coverage is to be studied and established.
9. The Utah Department of Health and Department of Human Services are to explore options to reduce service costs, such as using programs like the one presented to the Medicaid Interim Committee by Standard Optical or by using health opportunity accounts. The Departments are to report these options to the Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee.